

P20416.A03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas THORÖE SCHERB et al.

Appln. No. : 09/769,275

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : January 26, 2001

For : MACHINE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A TISSUE WEB

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during the examination of the instant application:

Applicants submit herewith a copy of the German Search Report (in German) conducted in German Application No. 100 03 685.6, which is a counterpart of the instant application. In particular the German Examiner cited:

(1) WO 94/28242, which is cited as an "X" category document (i.e. indicating lack of novelty). In particular, the German Examiner indicated that figure 1 is relevant to claims 1, 9, 12 and 17 of the German Application;

(2) WO 99/06629, which is cited as an "Y" category document. In particular, the German Examiner indicated that the whole document is relevant to claims 1, 9, 12 and 17 of

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the German Application.

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during the examination of the instant application:

(3) Swedish Patent No. 427 053, which is discussed in the instant application on page 2;

(4) Swedish laid open Patent Application No. 8202627-9 corresponds to the above-noted Swedish Patent No. 427 053;

(5) EP 0 731 212 A1, which is discussed in the instant application on pages 4 and 17;

(6) US 5,783,044, which is discussed in the instant application on pages 4 and 17; and

(7) WO 00/12817, which is discussed in the instant application on pages 6 and 17.

Copies of the above-listed documents (including the German Search Report) are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

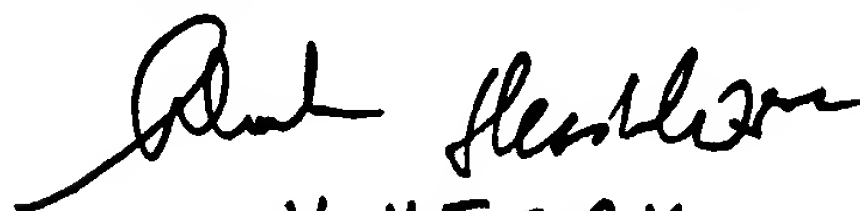
Applicants note that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months from the filing date and before receiving a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents is

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required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1).

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at ,
the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas THORÖE SCHERB et al.


45,294

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